## Message

From: Shea, Valois [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A4217A71307D4429B7BDC7C80EB40C7D-SHEA, VALOIS]

**Sent**: 7/13/2017 12:58:25 AM

To: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Subject: RE: No to Azarga-

Thank you for emailing me your comments on the draft UIC Dewey-Burdock permitting actions. I have added your email to the list of public comments received. I have also added you to my contact list to keep you informed on future EPA activities related to these proposed actions.

Thank you!

Valois

Valois Shea U.S. EPA Region 8 MailCode: 8WP-SUI 1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202-1129 Phone: (303) 312-6276

Fax: (303) 312-6741

Email: <u>shea.valois@epa.gov</u>

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 3:53 PM **To:** Shea, Valois <Shea. Valois@epa.gov>

Subject: No to Azarga-

Here are my comments on the Underground Injection Control Program's Draft Permits for the Proposed Dewey-Burdock Uranium Mine and Deep Disposal Wells:

I live in and own property in the Black Hills. I work in the tourism industry and know that the economic impacts of hosting millions of tourists and being a premier retirement area far outweigh any economic and environmental promises a poorly-funded company like Azarga/Powertech (Stock at .28 a share on Jun 16, 3:46 PM EDT) might have made over the years.

I am alarmed by their expansion of a plan to drill 4,000 in situ leach mining wells instead of the original 1,500. These toxic wells would be drilled into the Inyan Kara aquifer on the southwest edge of the Black Hills, which is used by families for their drinking water. After mining, the company's plan is to pump uranium mining wastes back underground into the Minnelusa aquifer through as many as four deep disposal wells, endangering yet more communities water and well-being.

Assurances that their mining and pumping processes are safe are totally based on the word of company officials with sparse scientific data. On the other hand, the history of uranium mining here in South Dakota indicates that uranium mining cannot be done without creating and leaving contamination. Cancer rates in areas where uranium was mined are alarmingly high. A poorly-financed company without a proven track record, Azarga cannot guarantee that it will be responsible for costly safety measures, for accidents, and for prompt and thorough cleanup. Azarga/Powertech's record at the Dewey-Burdock site is poor even as they know they must prove to the public that they are a good corporate citizen.

For health and economic reasons, I urge that the Environmental Protection Agency deny a permit.

It IS in our national interest to have safe water and soils for generations to come. It IS in our national interest to protect our citizens' health. It is NOT in our national interest to issue permits to a company with a problematic environmental record.

Respectfully submitted,	
Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)	_